

PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE



God, source of all light,

*We are surrounded by the darkness
of the injustices experienced by
your people:*

*The poor, who are hungry and
search for shelter,*

The sick, who seek relief,

*The downtrodden, who search for
help in their hopelessness.*

*Surround us, and fill us with your
Spirit, who is light.*

Lead us to be a light to your people.

*Help our parishes to be salt for the
world as we share your love with
those caught in the struggles of life.*

*We desire to be your presence to
the least among us and to
know your presence in them
as we work through you to
bring justice and peace to this
world in desperate need.*

*We ask this through our Lord, Jesus
Christ, your Son, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.*

Amen

USCCB, Communities of Salt and Light Resource Manual

BALLOON TOSS DISCUSSION

OBJECTIVE

Youth will examine the Catholic social teaching principle Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers by participating in a group activity and reflecting on their responsibilities to uphold each other's right to flourish.

MATERIALS

- Toothpicks
- Masking tape
- Balloons
- Simple prizes, like candy

PREPARATION

- Prior to the session, fully inflate one balloon for each small group. Youth will be divided into groups of six.
- Ask youth to help each other tape toothpicks on the ends of their fingers with the toothpicks extended out at least half an inch.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide youth into groups. Ask each group to form a circle, with group members standing 4 feet apart from one another.
- Explain that each group will be given a balloon, which they will toss from one member to another. There will be 10 rounds, or tosses. During each round, the balloon will represent a different basic human right.
- Explain that you will announce a different human right before every toss. Tell the students that when the balloon is tossed to them, they must state why that right is important and give an example of how or where that right is currently being violated.
- People may only speak if the balloon is tossed to them. They may not repeat answers already given, and every student should receive the balloon twice during the game.

- The group member who has just shared should hold the balloon until you announce the next human right. They then should toss it to a group member who has not already shared twice.
- Warn students that they must protect their balloon. If a group pops its balloon, its members will be divided into the remaining groups and the game will continue.
- Begin the game and continue for 10 rounds. Before each pass, announce one of the following human rights:

1. Right to food	7. Right to
2. Right to clothing	information
3. Right to shelter	8. Right to privacy
4. Right to	9. Right to follow
education	one's conscience
5. Right to work	10. Right to freedom
6. Right to respect	of religion
- Any groups with an intact balloon at the end are declared human rights champions. Award their prizes.

PROCESSING

- How did it feel to be responsible for your group's balloon when it was passed to you?
- Did you want to take responsibility for your group's balloon? How did you feel about others sharing the responsibility for your group's balloon?
- What are the important ways that we can ensure that all people have their work protected and respected?